



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **US Department of Labor Changes Unemployment Benefit Increase Rule** *Decision Will Affect Hoosier Payments Next Week Only*

INDIANAPOLIS (February 27, 2009) - Due to a change by the United States Department of Labor, Hoosiers receiving unemployment insurance benefits will only receive a \$25 increase next week rather than a one-time \$50 increase in their weekly payment.

The US Dept. of Labor originally informed the Indiana Department of Workforce Development that benefits would increase effective last week, when President Barack Obama signed the Federal stimulus package into law. Indiana announced the increased benefit two days later. Since that time, the US Dept. of Labor has changed its interpretation of the law and informed the state the increase would not be effective until this week, the first full week after the measure became law.

Indiana had planned to pay the increase for this week and last week beginning Monday, resulting in a one-time \$50 additional payment. However, due to this US Dept. of Labor policy change, Indiana can only pay the increase for last week, resulting in a \$25 increase beginning Monday and continuing each week through the end of 2009.

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